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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER



Imagery analysis report

Iraq/Iran Military Summary

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IRAQ/IRAN MILITARY SUMMARY

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1. (S/D) This report updates the most recent¹ in a series of imagery-derived reports on the Iraq/Iran conflict and covers the period from [redacted]. The report discusses deployed ground forces in the forward area, rear garrison units (Figure 1), airfields, naval bases, commercial shipping, and POL facilities. Military unit designators and subordination (where used) are derived from collateral sources.² Additional reports will be issued as the situation changes.

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OVERVIEW

2. (S/D) Imagery of the forward area of conflict on [redacted] showed that the Iraqi force in the Khorramshahr/Abadan area had crossed the Karun River and was positioned 5 nautical miles (nm) north of Abadan. Also, the Ahvaz/Abadan pipeline was on fire.

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3. (S/D) One Iraqi and six Iranian rear areas/garrisons were imaged during the period. Surface-to-air missile units were deployed in the Al Basrah area, Iraq, on [redacted]. At five Iranian installations, troops and equipment continued to depart.

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4. (S/D) Three Iraqi and 13 Iranian airfields were imaged, and ten of Iraq's 13 BLINDER bombers were observed during the reporting period. One of the ten BLINDERs had crashed at H-3 Airfield in Iraq. Two of Iraq's six BADGER bombers were observed at Al Taqaddum Airfield on imagery of [redacted]. In Iran, support buildings at Tehran/Mehrabad Helicopter Field sustained damage between [redacted]. The Iranian F-14 bases at Shiraz International and Khatami AB Airfields were not imaged.

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5. (S/D) One Iraqi and three Iranian naval facilities were imaged. No battle damage was evident at Al Basrah Naval Base in Iraq. Virtually all large buildings at Khorramshahr Naval Base in Iran had been damaged.

6. (S/D) One Iraqi and 14 Iranian POL facilities were imaged. Fires were evident at Abadan Petroleum Product Storage and Pumping Station Transfer Iran 1. Extensive damage was also seen at Tabriz POL Refinery, Iran.

GROUND FORCE ACTIVITY**Iraq/Iran Forward Area****Khorramshahr/Abadan Area**

7. (S/D) Iraqi forces continued their drive on Abadan and Khorramshahr on [redacted] (Figure 2). An Iraqi tank company and two mechanized infantry companies were east of the Karun River, advancing on Abadan from the north. This force was 5 nm north of the city.

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8. (S/D) The Iraqis also continued to reposition their forces around Khorramshahr. An Iraqi force containing maneuver elements of a mechanized infantry battalion was approximately 6 nm north of Khorramshahr. Two mechanized infantry companies, one tank company, and one field artillery (FA) battery were approximately 2 nm north-northwest of the city, and a mechanized infantry platoon was observed in the northwest outskirts of Khorramshahr. One FA battalion-plus was 4 nm northwest of the city, while a second FA battalion was deployed 3 nm northwest of the city. On the west bank of the Shatt Al Arab, in Iraq, one FA battalion remained 4 nm southwest of Khorramshahr. An additional FA battery was observed 5 nm southwest of Abadan. One SA-6 battalion was deployed approximately 7 nm northwest of Khorramshahr, while a newly constructed unoccupied SA-3 site (Khorramshahr SA-3 Site, 30-29-26N 048-07-07E) was 4.8 nm northwest of the city.

9. (S/D) Although Iranian infantry was probably still in the southeast sector of Khorramshahr, west of the Karun River, the only Iranian unit observed was a tank platoon east of the river, in a residential area.

10. (S/D) In related battle area activity, the major underground oil pipeline extending north from Abadan was on fire (Figure 3), and deep scarring over the pipelines was evident. The parallel aboveground pipeline had been severed in at least ten places.

Rear Areas**Iraq**

11. (S/D) Three SA-6 battalions, a field-deployed SA-2 site, and a mechanized infantry company were deployed in the Al Basrah area on [redacted]. One SA-6 battalion was 5.5 nm north-northeast of Al Basrah, at 30-35-32N 047-52-00E; the second was 9.5 nm east of the city; and the third was 10.8 nm east of the city, at 30-34-25N 047-59-30E. The mechanized infantry company was deployed 4.3 nm north-north-

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east of Al Basrah, and the new field-deployed SA-2 site, Al Basrah SA-2 Site, was 4 nm southeast of Al Basrah, at 30-44-10N 047-45-30E.

Iran

12. (S/D) At Tabriz Barracks and Training Center [redacted] two M-60 tanks, two FA guns, 17 tank transporters, 17 MAZ-537 trucks, and 40 cargo trucks remained dispersed throughout the southern portion of the barracks area on [redacted]. Also, personnel were observed in formation near a cargo truck on an interior road at this installation. This may have been an indication of additional troops preparing to depart for the battle areas.

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13. (S/D) In the Tehran area, two tank platoons and one mechanized infantry company departed Tehran Barracks and Brigade Headquarters Lavizan [redacted]. With the departure of these units, major elements of the Chieftain tank battalion and the BTR-60-equipped mechanized infantry battalion, as well as the M-109A1 self-propelled gun battalion, were out of garrison. Seven AB-214/AH-1 and two probable Jet Ranger helicopters were dispersed throughout the parade and athletic fields.

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14. (S/D) One 60-ton and eight 20-ton heavy lift trailers departed Tehran Barracks and Special Forces Brigade Headquarters Bagh-E Shah [redacted]. Forty-eight heavy lift trailers remained at the facility. One CH-47 helicopter was observed on the helipad. No change was observed at this facility on imagery of [redacted].

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15. (S/D) An air defense battalion of 24 ZU-23 antiaircraft (AA) guns departed Tehran Barracks and Artillery Brigade Headquarters Jai [redacted]. These AA guns may have departed prior to [redacted].

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16. (S/D) Support vehicles of the 55th Airborne Brigade (approximately 350 trucks) remained in garrison at Shiraz Barracks Training Center and Brigade Headquarters [redacted].

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17. (S/D) Also, four BTR-50 and three BMP armored personnel carriers departed Shiraz Barracks and Armor Training Center West [redacted].

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AIR ACTIVITY**Iraq**

18. (S/D) No additional bomb damage was observed at the major Iraqi bomber base at Al Taqaddum Airfield [redacted] (Figure 4 and Table 1) on imagery of [redacted]. Aircraft observed included seven BLINDERs, two BADGERs, 11 FLOGGERS, nine FISHBEDs, and seven FITTERs.

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19. (S/D) One BLINDER bomber crashed at H-3 Airfield [redacted] (Figure 5). The wreckage of the BLINDER and a burn scar were adjacent to the west end of the main runway. Other aircraft at the airfield on [redacted] included two BLINDERs, 15 FITTERs, one CUB, one COOKPOT, and three HIND and three Super Frelon helicopters. The airfield remained operational and undamaged.

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Iran

20. (S/D) On imagery of [redacted] craters were evident on both ends of the parallel runways and in the support area at Omidiyah Airfield AB [redacted], southeast of Ahvaz (Figure 4 and Table 1). Temporary repairs to the runways were complete, and the airfield appeared to be operational, although no aircraft were observed.

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21. (S/D) There was no new damage to any of the facilities at Tehran/Mehrabad International Airfield [redacted] and the airfield was operational. A pair of 35mm AA guns was newly deployed at the west end of the runways. Aircraft observed included 19 F-4s, 16 F-5s, ten C-130s, one KC-747, one 747, three KC-707s, one Caribou, and one AH-1, four CH-47, and two AB-214 helicopters. One of the 747 tankers (KC-747) appeared to have possibly sustained fire damage.

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22. (S/D) Two support buildings had been destroyed, and two had been damaged at Tehran/Mehrabad Helicopter Field [redacted] (Figure 6). Two AB-214 helicopters were parked in front of the main hangar on that date.

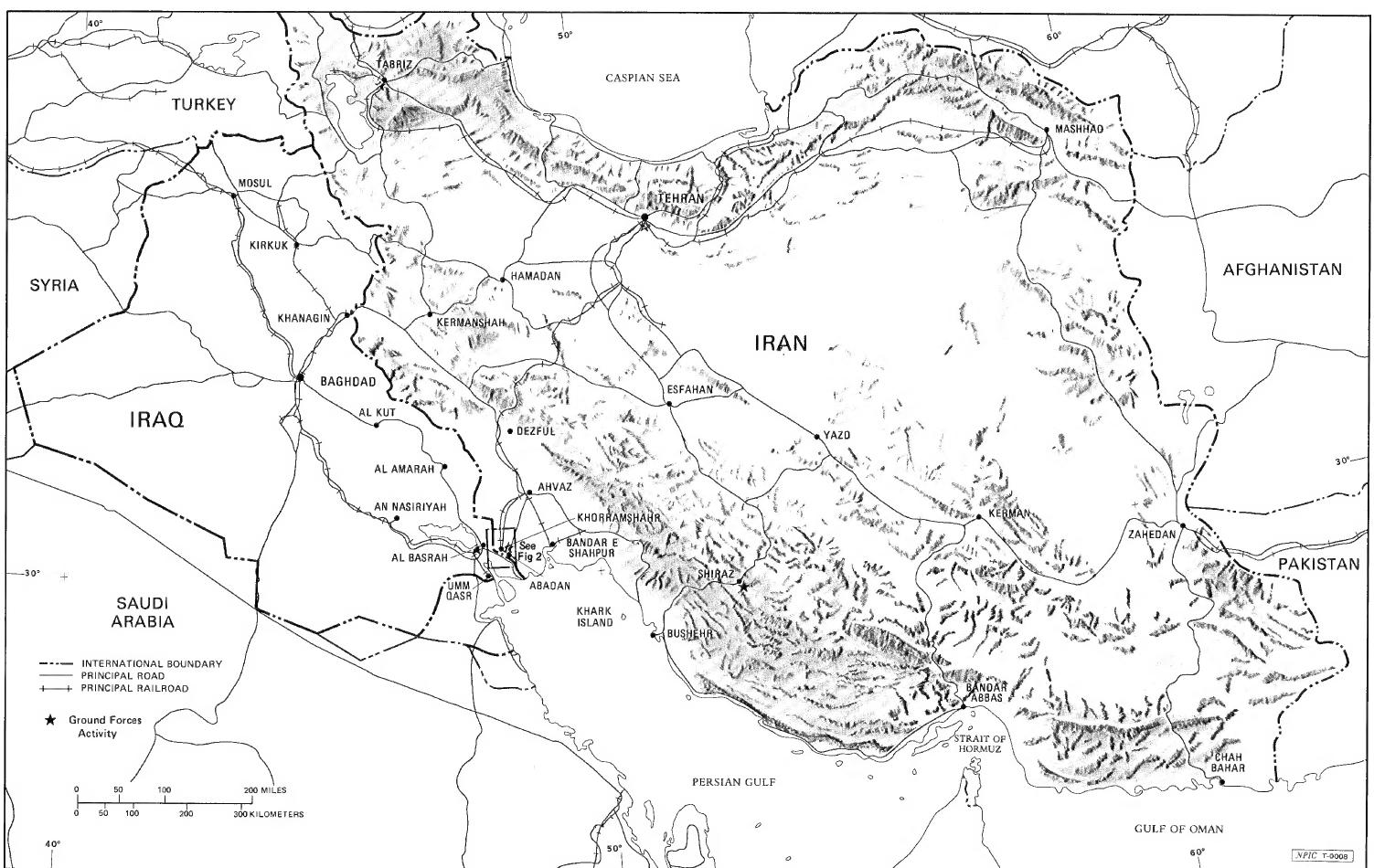
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NAVAL ACTIVITY**Iraq**

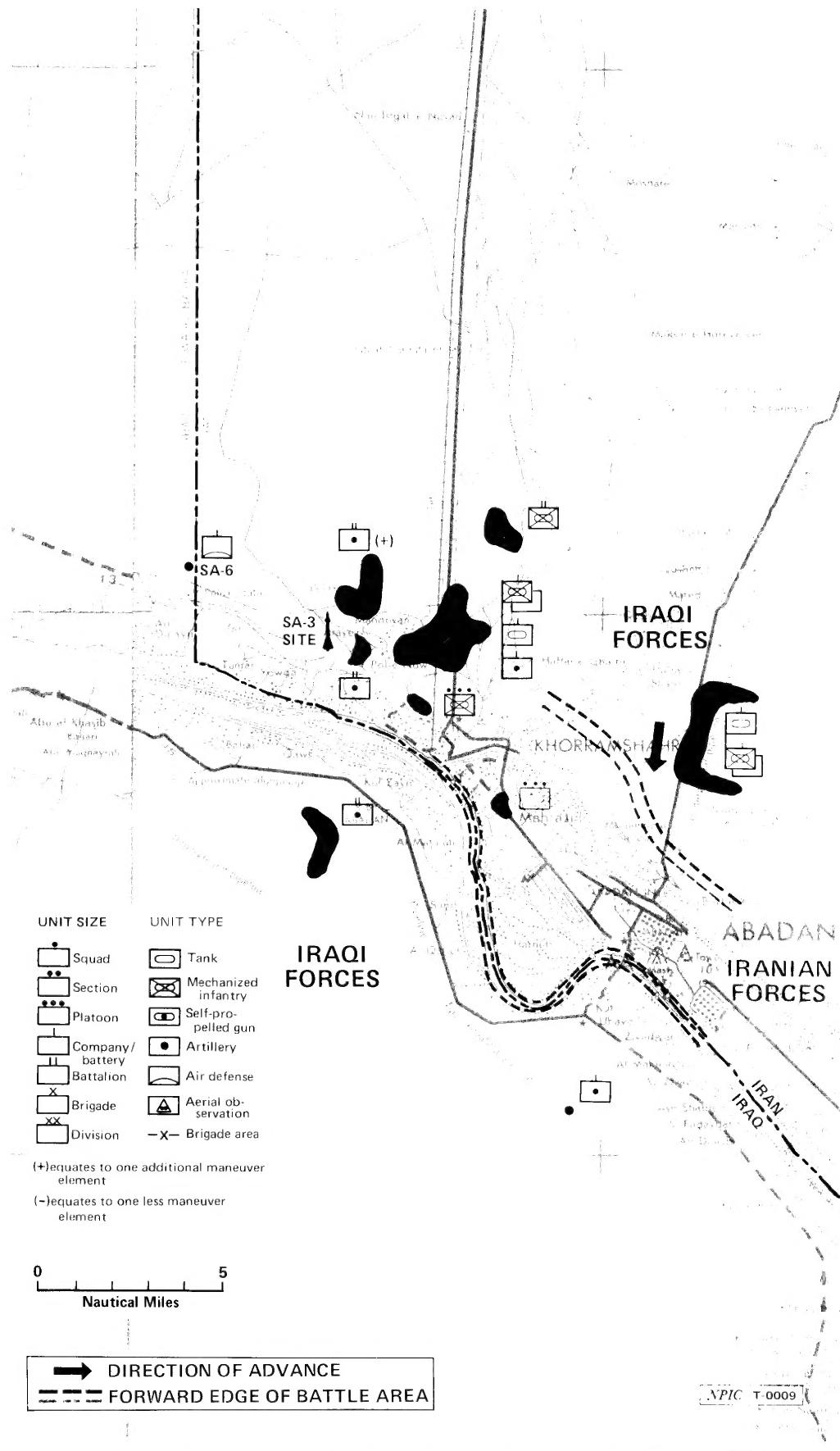
23. (S/D) One Osa II missile attack boat (PTG), two SO-1 small submarine chasers (PCLs), one T-43 fleet minesweeper (MSF), and two Polnocny medium amphibious assault landing ships (LSMs) were dispersed in the Shatt Al Arab adjacent to Al Basrah Naval Base [redacted] (Figure 4). Three P-6 motor torpedo boats (PTs) and three Yevgenya inshore minesweepers (MSIs) were moored at the base. Additionally, two P-6 PTs were moored at a quay 2 nm upriver from the naval base.

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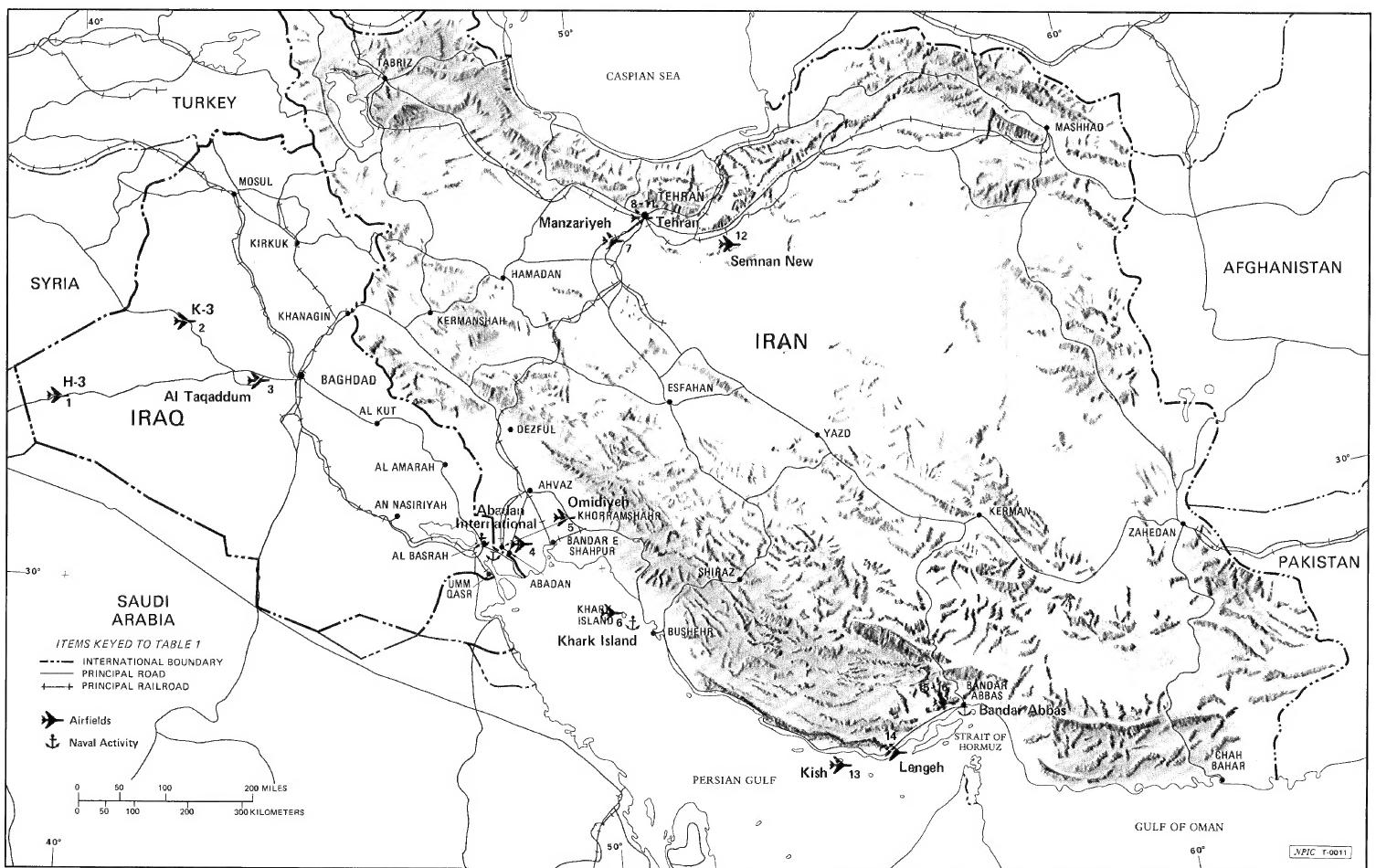
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Table 1.
Air Activity in Iraq and Iran
(Items keyed to Figure 4)

This table in its entirety is classified SECRET/WNINTEL.

Item	Installation/ BE No	Date of Coverage	AOB Present	Operational Status/Remarks	
Iraq					25X1
1	H-3 Airfield [redacted]		2 BLINDERS, 1 BLINDER (crashed), 15 FITTERS, 1 CUB, 1 COOKPOT, 3 HINDs, 3 Super Frelons	Operational; undamaged; 1 BLINDER crashed at west end of runway	25X1
2	K-3 Airfield [redacted]		3 HIPs	Operational; no damage	25X1
3	Al Taqaddum Airfield [redacted]		7 BLINDERS, 2 BADGERS, 11 FLOGGERs, 7 FITTERs, 9 FISHBEDs	Operational; No new damage	25X1
Iran					
4	Abadan International Airfield [redacted]		2 F-27s, 1 poss F-27	Operational status cannot be determined; no significant new damage; runway blocked by vehicles	25X1
5	Omidiyeh Airfield AB [redacted]		None	Operational; bomb damage to both ends of parallel runways repaired	25X1
6	Khark Island Airfield [redacted]		None	Operational; undamaged; runway blocked by 2 vehicles	25X1
7	Manzariyeh Airfield [redacted]		None	Operational; undamaged	25X1
8	Tehran/Doshan Tappeh Airfield [redacted]		1 C-130, 5 F-27s, 1 CH-47, 4 AB-214s	Operational; undamaged	25X1
9	Tehran/Ghale Morghi Airfield [redacted]		15 AB-214s/ AH-1s, 29 small, straight-wing aircraft	Operational; undamaged (partial coverage)	25X1
10	Tehran/Mehrabad Helicopter Field [redacted]		2 AB-214s	Operational; 2 buildings destroyed & 2 damaged since [redacted]	25X1
11	Tehran/Mehrabad International Airfield [redacted]		19 F-4s, 16 F-5s, 10 C-130s, 1 KC-747, 1 747, 3 KC 707s, 1 Caribou, 4 CH-47s, 2 AB-214s, 1 AH-1	Operational; 1 KC-747 appears fire damaged; 1 pair of 35mm AA guns newly deployed	25X1
12	Semnan New Airfield [redacted]		None	Operational; undamaged	25X1
13	Kish Airfield [redacted]		None	Operational; 1 runway blocked by vehicles; 1 35mm AA gun site newly occupied	25X1
14	Lengeh Airfield [redacted]		None	Operational; undamaged	25X1
15	Bandar Abbas International Airfield [redacted]		1 Falcon, 1 small, straight- wing aircraft, 1 AB-214	Operational; undamaged; 1 35mm AA gun site newly occupied & protective walls constructed in front of four alert hangarettes since [redacted]	25X1
16	Bandar Abbas NAS Airfield [redacted]		None	Operational; undamaged; both runways blocked by vehicles (partial coverage)	25X1



SECRET**Iran**

24. (S/D) Heavy battle damage was observed at Khorramshahr Naval Base Repair and Storage Facility [REDACTED] Virtually every large building at the naval facility had been damaged, and one of Iran's two hydrofoils had been sunk. One MK III patrol boat (PB) and three derelict utility landing craft (LCUs) remained at the base.

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25. (S/D) Four Wellington patrol air cushion vehicles (PACVs), one possible Wellington PACV, and three Winchester PACVs were at Khark Island Hovercraft Base [REDACTED] Two additional Wellington PACVs and one Winchester PACV had been beached on the northern portion of the island (northwest of the hovercraft base), over an area containing part of an underground oil pipeline.

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Strait of Hormuz

26. (S/D) One Sumner guided missile destroyer (DDG) and two Wellington PACVs departed Bandar Abbas Port Facilities Suru [REDACTED], and one Bandar Abbas small replenishment oiler (AORL) arrived at the port between [REDACTED] A 35mm Oerlikon AA site was newly positioned at the mouth of the harbor during this time frame. Vessels in port on [REDACTED] included one Sumner DDG; one Battle DDG; two Vosper MK-5 (SAAM) guided missile frigates (FFGs); two La Combattante-IIB PTGs; two PGM-71-class motor gunboats (PGMs); six MK-III PBs; six river/roadstead patrol boats (PBRs), one of which was leaving the harbor; two Hengham amphibious vehicle landing ships (LSTs), one of which had been moved to a mooring southwest of the harbor since [REDACTED] two LCUs; one Bandar Abbas AORL; one Amphion repair ship (AR); one auxiliary repair dock (ARD-T); and one Kangan-class water carrier (AWK).

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27. (S/D) Increased defenses were observed at Bandar Abbas International Airfield [REDACTED] on imagery of [REDACTED] a 35mm AA site had been newly occupied, and defensive walls had been constructed in front of the four alert hangarettes at the northeast end of the airfield. One Falcon; one small, straight-wing aircraft; and one AB-214 helicopter were present.

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28. (S/D) No damage to Jazireh Ye Qeys Port Facility North [REDACTED] at Kish Island was observed on imagery of [REDACTED] One replenishment ship was present.

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COMMERCIAL SHIPPING**Shatt Al Arab Area**

29. (S/D) The Shatt Al Arab and port facilities along the river from 30-34-25N 047-46-30E to 30-22-50N 048-10-40E were imaged on [REDACTED] Fifty-three medium freighters, 18 small/coastal freighters, two container ships, one medium tanker, and two floating drydocks (ARD-Ds) were either at the port facilities or in mid-river.

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30. (S/D) Fourteen medium freighters (including one Soviet Leninskiy Komsomol Class), two container ships, one medium tanker, and one small/coastal freighter remained moored at the quay at Al Basrah Port Facilities [REDACTED] Iraq, on [REDACTED] Four medium freighters also remained at the quay of Khor Al Zubayr Port Facilities [REDACTED] Iraq.

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31. (S/D) Khorramshahr Port Facilities [REDACTED] Iran, had been almost totally destroyed by [REDACTED] Two transit sheds were the only buildings that had not sustained heavy damage. At least 75 per cent of the southernmost quay had been destroyed, with only the pilings remaining. Fires continued to burn at two warehouses. Only medium freighters remained at the port; however, two medium freighters and five small/coastal freighters were dead in the water adjacent to the Khorramshahr Port Facilities. One of the two medium freighters was on fire and lying low in the water perpendicular to the channel, effectively blocking the Shatt Al Arab (Figure 7).

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32. (S/D) No battle damage was observed at either the quay or support building at Abadan Port Facilities [REDACTED] Iran, on imagery of [REDACTED] One small/coastal freighter remained moored at the quay.

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33. (S/D) The remaining vessels were at the following locations: Eight small/coastal freighters (including one on fire at 30-25-00N 048-10-35E), one medium freighter, and one ARD-D were dead in the water in a segment of the Shatt Al Arab between 30-25-50N 048-09-50E and 30-22-50N 048-10-40E on [REDACTED] Three small/coastal freighters, one ARD-D, and 29 medium freighters were positioned in the center of the river between 30-33-30N 047-48-00E and 30-27-35N 048-01-55E. Three of the 29 medium freighters had been berthed at Khorramshahr Port Facilities [REDACTED] (one was on fire at that time) and had subsequently been moved upstream. Another of the 29 medium freighters had drifted 3 nm downstream, to 30-29-40N 047-52-20E since [REDACTED]

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POL FACILITIES

34. (S/D) One Iraqi and 14 Iranian POL-related facilities were observed during the reporting period (Figure 8 and Table 2).

Iran

35. (S/D) Smoke continued to obscure much of Abadan Petroleum Product Storage and Pumping Station Transfer Iran 1 [redacted] Eight POL storage tanks and several pipelines were burning.

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36. (S/D) No further significant damage to Abadan Petroleum Refinery NIOC on the Shatt Al Arab was observed on imagery of [redacted] Since the beginning of hostilities, ten large, vertical POL storage tanks have been destroyed, and at least five others have sustained damage. Nineteen small, vertical storage tanks have been damaged, and one has been destroyed. A pipeline has been damaged. The cracking unit has not sustained any visible damage.

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37. (S/D) Extensive bomb damage was observed at Tabriz POL Refinery [redacted] on imagery of [redacted] (Figure 9). One floating-top POL tank and adjacent pipelines, the generator hall, two support buildings, one vertical tank in the power plant, the compressor house, and an administration building were damaged. Probable damage to a cooling tower was also observed.

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OTHER

Iran

38. (S/D) No unusual activity was observed at or near the US Embassy Tehran [redacted] on imagery of [redacted] Traffic patterns throughout the city appeared to be normal. Long gas lines in Tehran resulted in large traffic jams scattered throughout the city on [redacted]

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39. (S/D) Five rows of six people each were seen on the tennis court of the American Consulate Tabriz [redacted] three additional people were also on the court, near a possible entrance. Nineteen sedans, one van-bodied truck, and one other truck were scattered throughout the western half of the installation. No bomb damage was observed.

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Table 2.
POL Facilities in Iraq and Iran
(Items keyed to Figure 8)

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Item	Installation Name/ BE No	Date of Coverage	Damage	Comments	
Iraq					25X1
1	Hadithah Petroleum Topping and Storage K-3 [redacted]		None		25X1
2	Al Basrah Petroleum Refinery Muftiyah [redacted]		Old	2 large POL tanks damaged (fire & smoke evident from 1 tank); destroyed pipelines	25X1
Iran					25X1
3	Abadan Petroleum Product Storage and Pumping Station Transfer Iran 1 [redacted]		New/old	Smoke obscured most of facility; 30 POL storage tanks destroyed (8 burning) & 4 POL tanks damaged; damaged pipelines (several burning)	25X1
4	Abadan Petroleum Refinery NIOC [redacted]		Old	Smoke-free for the first time in more than 2 weeks; no further significant damage; 10 large, vertical storage tanks destroyed, 5 POL tanks damaged, 19 small, vertical storage tanks damaged, 1 vertical tank destroyed; pipeline damaged	25X1
5	Marun Gas—Oil Separation Plant PU 2 [redacted]		None		25X1
6	Marun Gas—Oil Separation Plant PU 5 [redacted]		None		25X1
7	Agha Jari Petroleum Stabilization Plant AIOC [redacted]		None		25X1
8	Agha Jari Gas—Oil Separation Plant PU 3 [redacted]		None		25X1
9	Omidiyeh Ye Dovvam Crude Pump Station No 2 [redacted]		None		25X1
10	Gach Saran Pump Station Gas—Oil Separation Plant and Storage [redacted]		None		25X1
11	Gach Saran Topping and Stabilization Plant [redacted]		None		25X1
12	Jazireh Ye Khark Petroleum Terminal		Old	Fires continued to burn in 2 prob burnoff pits; 2 medium- size storage tanks destroyed, 1 tank damaged; 1 pipeline damaged	25X1
13	Tabriz Petroleum Refinery [redacted]		New	1 floating-top POL tank & adjacent pipelines, generator hall, 2 support buildings, 1 vertical tank in powerplant, compressor house, & 1 admin bldg damaged; cooling tower prob damaged	25X1
14	Rey Petroleum Refinery & Storage [redacted]		None		25X1
15	Tehran Gas Turbine Power Plant Shah Rey Refinery [redacted]		None		25X1
16	Isfahan (Esfahan) Petroleum Refinery Northwest [redacted]		None		25X1

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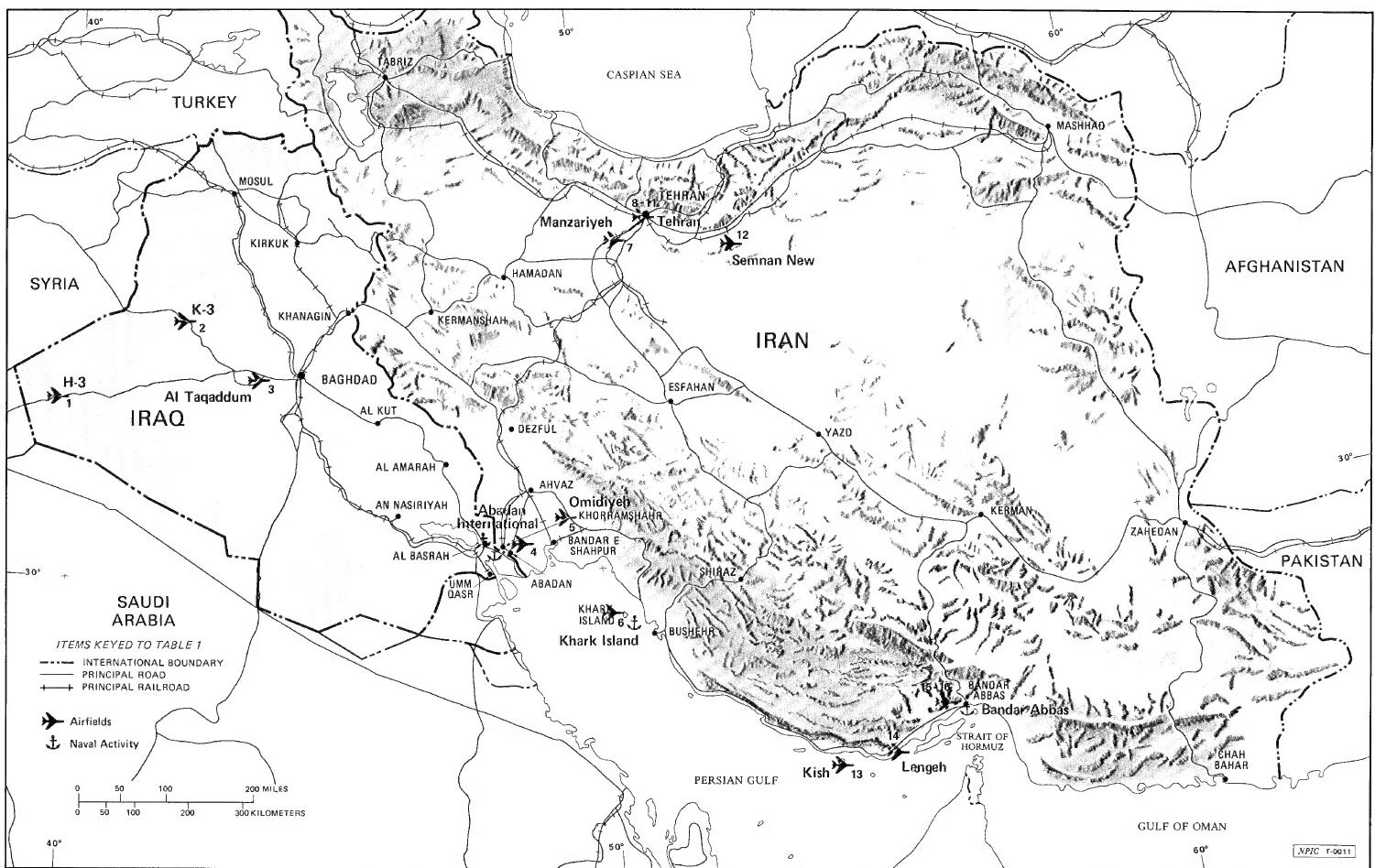


FIGURE 4. IRAQI/IRANIAN AIR AND NAVAL FACILITIES

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REFERENCES

IMAGERY

(S/D) All applicable satellite imagery acquired on [redacted] was used in the preparation of this report.

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MAPS OR CHARTS

DoD. Joint Operations Graphics, Various Sheets (UNCLASSIFIED, Distribution Restricted)

DOCUMENTS

1. NPIC, Z-20142/80, IAR-0276/80, *Iraq/Iran Military Summary*, [redacted] Oct 80 (SECRET) [redacted]
2. DIA. DDB-1100-IZ-80, *Ground Order of Battle: Iraq (U)*, Jan 80 (SECRET) [redacted]
DIA. DDB-1100-IR-78, *Ground Order of Battle: Iran (U)*, Aug 78 (SECRET) [redacted]

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(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to the South Asia/Arabia Branch, Third World Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted]

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